

BETTER TIMES

Produced monthly by AA members in the Greater Toronto Area

Dec. 2018



NOTICE: Monthly General Meeting is on December 18 at 8 p.m. at Timothy Eaton Church.

Winter Season Open House 2018

December 25, 2018
College Street United Church
454 College St., Toronto

Meetings both open & closed.
Come for meetings, stay for fellowship.
Fully accessible.



Word search

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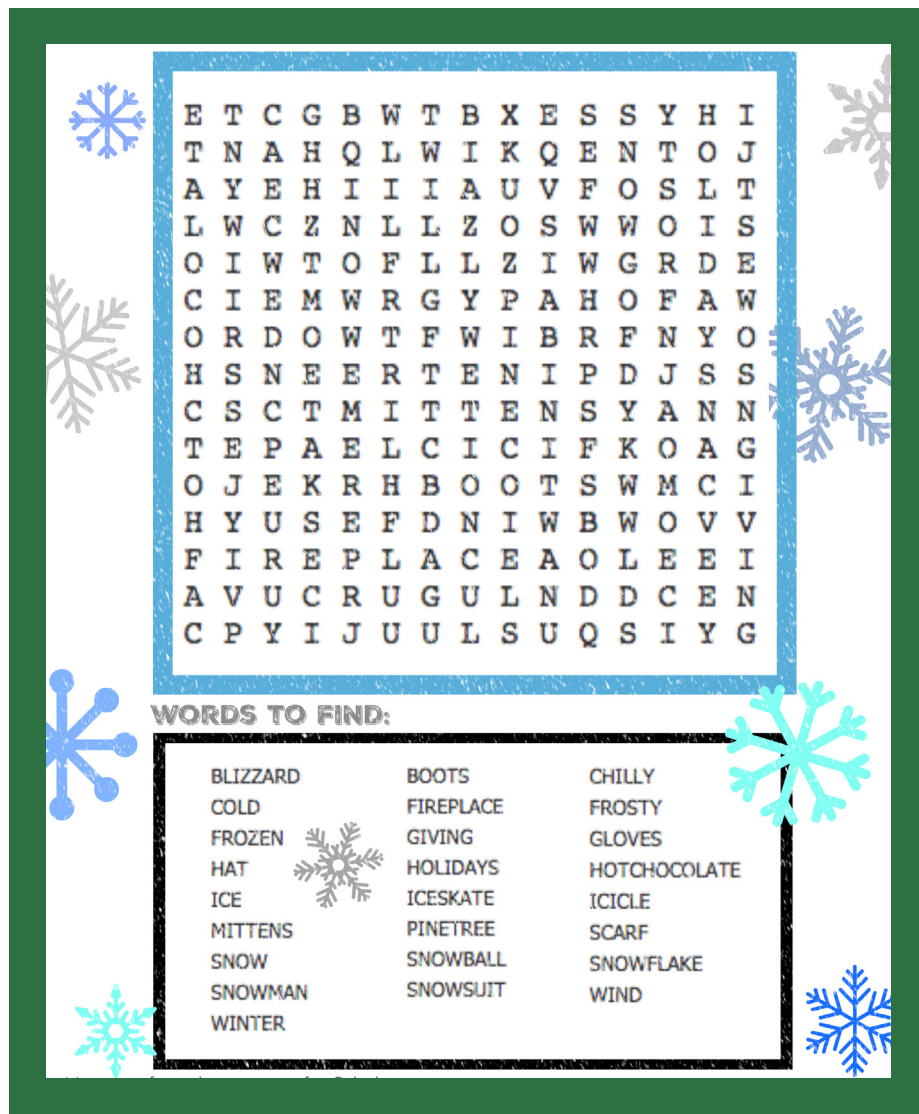
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Opinions expressed in BETTER TIMES are those of the authors and don't necessarily reflect those of the Greater Toronto Area Intergroup. The editorial staff reserve the right to edit submitted articles for length, content and grammar in accordance with layout and quality purposes. Submit group news, medallions, other event

notices, letters to the editor or articles to BETTER TIMES before the 7th of the month prior to the month of issue. Submissions should be 200 to 500 words and may be made online at www.aatoronto.org or emailed to bettertimes@aatoronto.org.

Call for service

We are currently looking for the following to “step up” for a service call for the Communications Committee of the Greater Toronto Area Intergroup in the following positions:

**Communications Chairperson
Better Times Editor
Better Times Assistant Editor
Committee Members**

Are you skilled in web content, web maintenance, writing, editing, graphic design, web application or do you have the “reach” to seek content for our newsletter? If you DO, this Committee may be just the service outside the group level you may be looking for in 2019.

The Committee itself is responsible for GTA meeting booklets, the Intergroup website including our future online bookstore, the Better Times Newsletter (both production and distribution). These core functions of Intergroup are integral to carrying the message to our fellow alcoholics, especially the newcomer.

If you would like to join a fun, productive and exciting crew and contribute your skills, WE WANT YOU!

Please contact the committee at communications@aatoronto.org for more details.



THE COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE NEEDS YOU FOR SERVICE FOR 2019!

**WEBSITE
BETTER TIMES EDITOR
COMMUNICATIONS CHAIR
LITERATURE ONLINE COMMITTEE
MEETING BOOKLETS
CONTENT WRITING**

Ontario Regional Conference

ONTARIO REGIONAL CONFERENCE of ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS

March 1 - 3, 2019

Sheraton Centre Hotel
123 Queen St. W, Toronto ON

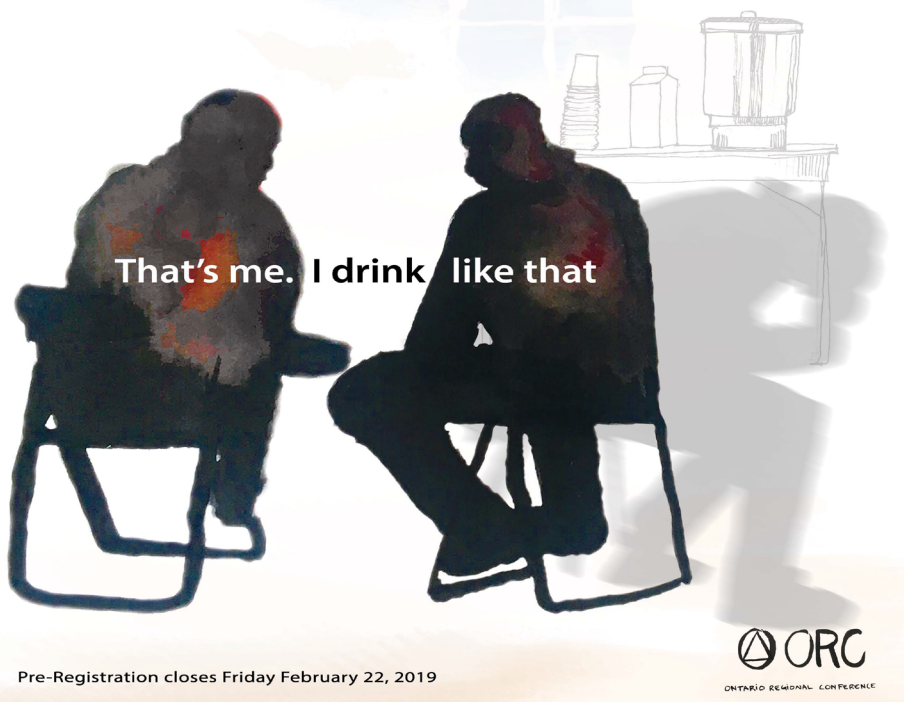
Register now at: www.aaorc.ca

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

please contact: orcvolunteers@gmail.com

SPEAKERS

Earl H. - Culver City, CA
Robert T. - Spruce Grove, AB
Geri B. - Vancouver Island, BC
Mary B. - Seattle WA (Al-Anon)



Pre-Registration closes Friday February 22, 2019

Message from the chair

Hello everybody,

This year's theme comes from the chapter "A vision for you," which describes Bill and Bob's encounter with the person who would become AA member number three. The Big Book describes that experience as follows:

Hopelessness was written large on the man's face as he replied: "Oh, but that's no use. Nothing would fix me. I'm a goner. The last three times I got drunk on the way home from here. I'm afraid to go out the door. I can't understand it."

For an hour, the two friends told him about their drinking experiences.

Over and over, he would say: "That's me. That's me. I drink like that."

Your 2019 ORC committee has been hard at work to bring you a conference that best reflects how simple and profound that statement can be for people like us. We hope to see you in 2019, March 1 to 3, where the question that loomed large in many a newly sober alcoholics' mind of, "am I to be consigned to a life where I shall be stupid, boring and glum or have you a sufficient substitute?" can be answered with a definitive "yes, we have such a substitute."

Yours in love and service,
Joshua H., Chair, 2019 ORC



- On Dec. 11, 1934, Bill W. takes his last drink & enters Towns Hospital in New York for the 4th time.
- On Dec. 12, 1934, Bill W. has a spiritual experience in Towns Hospital & finds relief from obsession with alcohol.
- On Dec. 1934, Bill & Lois start attending Oxford Group meetings.

From the archives

Recent items donated to the GTA Archives as reported by the GTA Archivist Eddy G.:

- 9th Annual 12 Step Retreat lead by Clancy I. at Cedar Glen Conf. Centre, Bolton, Ont. Nov. 22-24, 1991 (5 cassette tapes)
- Information AA Day at Lansing United Church, Toronto May 15, 1999 (7 cassette tapes),.
- Joe & Charlie Big Book Study at Earl Haig Secondary School, Toronto June 25-27, 1999 (9 cassette tapes). Donated by John H. (Beaches Group).
- The AA Service Manual combined with Twelve Concepts for World Service by Bill W. 1986-87 Edition. Donated by the Parkway Group.
- The Hill Group 70th Anniv. Oct. 25, 2018 Items: 6-book markers, 12-timeline history sheets 1935-2018, 1- Hill Group 70th Anniv. Placard. Donated by Lindsay M. (Hill Group).
- Agincourt Acorn Group 30th Anniv. Nov. 6, 1973 Ribbon. Donated by No Problem Michael G. (Scarborough Group).
- 7 cassette tapes- Bill Wilson at 1955 St. Louis, Henrietta W. Buffalo, NY at Mississauga Fall Roundup, Ted P. from Welcome Group, Joe C. from Willowdale Group at AA 25th International Convention 1960 in Long Beach, Calif., Young People's Panel at AA in Napanee, Ont 1994 Conf., Johnnie H. from Los Angeles, Calif. At Thunder Bay 1990 & AA Grapevine Classic Tape #1. Donated by Ben W. (Thorncleft Park Group).
- 30th Anniv. International Convention of AA, Toronto, Ont. July 2,3,4, 1965 Guarantee Fund Receipt. Donated by Dave F. (Skyway Group in Burlington).



- On Dec. 15, 1934, Ebby gave Bill W. a copy of William James book "The Variety of Religious Experience." It deeply inspired Bill by revealing 3 key points for recovery: 1. Calamity or complete defeat in a vital area of life (or what we call "hitting bottom"). 2. Admission of defeat (or what we call acceptance). 3. Appeal to a higher power

for help (or what we call "surrender"). These key points are also the basis for Steps 1, 2 & 3.

- From Dec. 1934 to May 1935, Bill W. works with alcoholics, but fails to sober any of them.
- In Dec. 1937 Bill meets with Rockefeller Foundation in an attempt to get money.

Holiday meetings

- Dec 4 Agincourt Acorn
- Dec 5 Twelve Steps
- Dec 9 Bayview
- Dec 11 Beaches
- Dec 16 High Park
- Dec 16 Birds of a Feather
- Dec 17 Glenholme
- Dec 17 King City
- Dec 18 East York
- Dec 19 Anniversary
- Dec 20 Danforth
- Dec 20 The Hill
- Dec 20 Rox Glen Traditional
- Dec 20 New Anchor
- Dec 21 Thorncliffe
- Dec 21 Beverly Hills
- Dec 22 Sat. Morning Discussion



SUNDAY, DECEMBER 16

ANNUAL HIGH PARK AA

**CANDLELIGHT
GRATITUDE MEETING
AND POT LUCK DINNER**

MEETING UPSTAIRS AT 7 P.M.
POT LUCK DINNER AT 8 P.M.

For information, call Lee at 647 667-1264



**Holiyays at
The Hill Group!**

ANNUAL HOLIDAY PARTY
THURSDAY DECEMBER 20, 2018
8:30PM - 9:30PM
SPECIAL MEETING FORMAT
SNACKS AND FELLOWSHIP TO FOLLOW
ALL ARE MOST WELCOME!
230 ST. CLAIR AVENUE EAST - TIMOTHY EATON CHURCH



The Beverly Hills Group

A Spiritual Candlelight Gratitude Meeting

Friday December 21, 2018
at 8:00 P.M.

Greenborough Community Church
2000 Keele St.



King City Group of Alcoholics Anonymous

Candlelight Meeting.

Monday, December 17th at 8:00 pm

All Saints Anglican Church - 12935 Keele Street, King City



Medallions

● Chris B	1	Friendly	Nov 26
● Sean McC	25	Westmoreland	Nov 27
● Florence V	10	East York	Nov 27
● Mike S	35	Beaches	Nov 27
● Paul G	40	East York	Nov 27
● Lori C	1	East York	Nov 29
● Tom D	35	Parkway	Dec 3
● Alf S	10	East York	Dec 11
● Steve P	15	Agincourt Acorn	Dec 11
● Lloyd D	1	New Anchor	Dec 13
● Paul McA	50	Beaches	Dec 18
● James A	1	Church St	Dec 29
● Gary S	1	Erin Mills	Dec 31
● Andrew K	25	Golden Mile	Jan 9
● Tracey C	5	New Anchor	Jan 10

**“HAVING HAD A SPIRITUAL AWAKENING AS THE
RESULT OF THESE STEPS, WE TRIED TO CARRY
THIS MESSAGE TO ALCOHOLICS, AND TO PRACTICE
THESE PRINCIPLES IN ALL OUR AFFAIRS.”**

STEP 12. ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS

